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Philad^a 9th Jan^y 1841.

Doct. J. Torrey

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GARDEN.

My dear Sir

From the J. C. Roome Collection

Given by A. M. VAIL.

I have regretted that I had not the pleasure of seeing you again before you left this City, as I wished to have asked some more questions regarding our friend Mr. Bridges. These questions are now however of but little consequence, & my only object in troubling you with the present letter, is to request of ~~the~~ you the favor to inform Mr. B. as soon as possible, of my prospects in regard to travelling in California, & also of my (at least partial) dependance on him in the prosecution of the matter. I have been expecting to see him almost daily, but he has not yet appeared, & the time is now approaching so near, when, if I go at all, I must prepare to leave, that I have been induced to ask of you the favor of writing to him. I would willingly do this myself, but do not know his address.

I should like him to know that if I go, I must start from here in three weeks at the latest, previous to which time I shall have all my preparations to make. I shall be willing to make an arrangement with him by which he can obtain specimens of every bird which I procure, but I am now so low in funds that I fear, without his assistance, I shall not be able to leave home at all, & if I lose the present excellent opportunity, there is but little probability of another such occurring.

Mr. Jones has already sailed, & I should like to follow in two weeks if possible. By attending to this matter for me without delay, you will confer a very great favor, & I shall be most happy at any time to reciprocate, if it be in my power. If Mr. B. should appear in your City, please dispatch him ^{away} without a delay - He has to Very respectfully Yours. Geo. K. Townsend

